

**Remote Control of Functions**  
**Via Wireless Transmission of Text-Based Messages**

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**Abstract**

10    A remote control device is located in an environment proximate to conditions to be monitored and actions to be implemented. The remote control device is able to receive and transmit wireless text based communications. A user employing a wireless communication device that supports text based messaging can transmit a control message containing a predetermined command to the remote control device. After preferably authenticating the  
15    user, the remote control device initiates a predetermined action based on receipt of a corresponding command.